



#### SUMMER CLASSIC ROUTES

type :	Solo Holidays Caminos Hiking Tours Self-Guided
level :	    
duration :	6 days
period:	May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct
code:	ESSWSL26

## Camino del Norte, Bilbao to Santander - Spain

### The 2nd stage of Camino del Norte walking

6 days, price from € 585



A short but exciting route on beautiful Camino del Norte, starting from wonderful Bilbao - a vibrant art & architecture capital - to the historic coastal city of Santander. It's an adventure through breathtaking coastal landscapes, including the Rias (the Spanish Fjords) and tranquil fishing villages, lush forests, wetlands and the charme of rural Spain. It's the perfect trip to experience the beauty of a lesser-known Camino and test your own resilience and strenght.

## Route

### Day 1 Arrival in Bilbao

The modern and vibrant city of **Bilbao** is well known for its architectural wonders and the delicious Basque cuisine - perfect to taste with a pintxos tour through the historical center. If you love art, don't miss the Guggenheim museum!

*\*Since tomorrow's hike on the Camino starts in Portugalete, you might want to book an extra night in Bilbao in order to do this first urban section of the Camino between Bilbao and Portugalete along the river bank of the Nervion river to o the famous hanging bridge **Puente Vizcaya** in **Getxo** and take the bus back into town. This hike is 13 km / 8 mi and totally flat.*

### Day 2 Bilbao - Portugalete - Castro Urdiales , 20,7/26,7 km

Your walk starts on a tranquil cycle paths, after a transfer to San Fuentes: enjoy a coffee on the beach of La Arena before crossing the bridge into Cantabria and walking along the beautiful coastline of Bay of Biscay: you'll be accompanied by ocean views and the rugged coastline to Ontón. Today's destination is Castro Urdiales, a town with a beautiful harbor and a rich history - treat yourself with some seafood for your first dinner here!

Distance: 20,7km/26,7km

Elevation gain: 350/530m

### Day 3 Castro Urdiales – Laredo 17/26,5 km

A short transfer at the beginning of the day takes the most boring part away - so that you can set off with beautiful sceneries, beautiful beaches, cliffs, and stretches through forest alternating with green inland valleys; continuously going up and down, but with moderate gradients. The historical port of Laredo, your destination for the day, is well known for its golden sandy beaches.

*Distance: 17/26,5km*

*Elevation gain: +460 or 575/-515 or 625m*

### Day 4 Laredo - Güemes, 25 km

Today's stage is quite long but not particularly difficult: you'll wind through lush countryside and charming villages, crossing two long beaches at the start: Salvé (in Laredo) and Berria (after Santoña). Enjoy a short ferry trip to Santoña - the perfect place to eat sardines - before continuing to Güemes, a peaceful oasis of green and quiet landscapes.

*Distance: 36 km*

*Elevation gain: + 385/-335 m*

### Day 5 Güemes – Santander, 14/24 km

A pleasant and easy route today with hardly any ascents, allowing for an afternoon at the beach of Somo or a visit of the city of Santander, capital of Cantabria. The total distance depends on where you take the passengers boat (in Somo or Pedreña) and if you do a detour in the morning via the Chapel of Saint Julian, a small sanctuary of intimate testimonies of pilgrims dedicated to the priest of Güemes. The ferry boat leaves you right in the centre of the city and very close to the art museum Centro Botín. Santander offers a blend of culture, history, and natural beauty, making it a perfect ending point for your pilgrimage.

*Distance: 14-24 km*

*Elevation gain: +215 or 250/-175 or 210 m*

### Day 6 Arrivederci, Santander!

After breakfast your journey comes to an end.

## Practical info

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#### Arrival:

The nearest airport is located in **Bilbao**.

From Bilbao Airport, you can take the Bizkaibus to the city center. Buses run approximately every 20 minutes.

#### Departure:

The nearest airport is located in **Santander**.

## Included

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### What is included

- 5 Nights in double room in \*\*/\*\* hotels , B&B with breakfast
- Luggage transportation from hotel to hotel
- Maps and detailed description of the itinerary
- Medical and luggage travel insurance
- 24h phone assistance
- Pilgrim Passport

### Not included

- Transfers to the starting location and from the arriving location of the tour
- Lunches and dinners, if not otherwise stated
- Visits and entrance fees - tips
- Personal expense
- Possible sojourn taxes

### Optional Services

These services can be added to the ones included in the base price of the tour:

- Extra nights
- Single room supplement
- Transfers to reach the starting location or to leave the arriving location of the tour, which will be quoted on request.
- Everything that is not mentioned in the "What is included" section.